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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/757,450

01/15/2004

Zdenka L. Jonak

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08/30/2006

HUMAN GENOME SCIENCES INC.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPT.
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EXAMINER

JIANG, DONG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1646

DATE MAILED: 08/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/757,450

Applicant(s)

JONAK ET AL.

Examiner

Dong Jiang

Art Unit

1646

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Currently, claims 1-18 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-9, drawn to an isolated polynucleotide, a variant thereof, an expression system comprising said nucleic acid, a host thereof, and a method of recombinantly producing the encoded polypeptide, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.
- II. Claims 10 and 11, drawn to a polypeptide, classified in class 530, subclass 350.
- III. Claim 12, drawn to an antibody, classified in class 530, subclass 387.9.
- IV. Claim 13 in part, drawn to a method of treatment for enhancing the activity of the polypeptide with an agonist to the polypeptide, classified in class 514, subclass 2.
- V. Claim 13 in part, drawn to a method of treatment for enhancing the expression of the polypeptide with the encoding polynucleotide, classified in class 514, subclass 44.
- VI. Claim 14 in part, drawn to a method of treatment for inhibiting the activity of the polypeptide with an antagonist to the polypeptide, classified in class 514, subclass 2.
- VII. Claim 14 in part, drawn to a method of treatment for inhibiting the expression of the polypeptide with a nucleic acid, classified in class 514, subclass 44.
- VIII. Claim 15 in part, drawn to a process for diagnosis by determining the presence or absence of a mutation in the nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide, classification depending upon the method steps.
- IX. Claim 15 in part, drawn to a process for diagnosis by analyzing for the presence or amount of the polypeptide, classification depending upon the method steps.
- X. Claim 16, drawn to a method for identifying compound, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.

Art Unit: 1646

XI. Claim 17, drawn to an agonist of the polypeptide, classification depending upon the chemical entity of the agonist.

XII. Claim 18, drawn to an antagonist of the polypeptide, classification depending upon the chemical entity of the antagonist.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because:

The polynucleotide of Invention I is related to the polypeptide of Invention II by virtue of encoding same. The polynucleotide has utility for the recombinant production of the polypeptide in a host cell. Although the polynucleotide and the polypeptide are related since the polynucleotide encodes the specifically claimed polypeptide, they are distinct inventions because they are physically and functionally distinct chemical entities, and the polypeptide product can be made by another and materially different process, such as by synthetic peptide synthesis or purification from the natural source. Further, the nucleic acid may be used for processes other than the production of the protein, such as nucleic acid hybridization assay.

The method of Invention I is related to the polypeptide of Invention II as process of making and product made. The Inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product as claimed may be isolated from their natural source or made by chemical peptide synthesis.

The polynucleotide of Invention I is distinct from and unrelated to the antibody of Invention III, the agonist of invention XI, and the antagonist of invention XII because they are physically and functionally distinct chemical entities which share neither structure nor function. Also, neither is required for the manufacture of the other. The method of Invention I is distinct from and unrelated to the products of Inventions III, XI and XII because the products may be neither made by nor used in the method.

Invention I is distinct from and unrelated to Inventions IV and VI-X, wherein the polypeptide of Invention I is neither made by nor used in the methods of Inventions IV and VI-X, and wherein each does not require the other.

Inventions I and V are related as product and process of use (gene therapy). The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the product as claimed may be used for processes other than the gene therapy, such as nucleic acid hybridization assay.

The polypeptide of Invention II is related to the antibody of Invention III by virtue of being the cognate antigen, necessary for the production of the antibodies. Although the protein and antibody are related due to the necessary steric complementarity of the two, they are distinct inventions because they are physically and functionally distinct chemical entities, and because the protein can be used another and materially different process from the use for production of the antibody, such as in a pharmaceutical composition in its own right, or in assays for the identification of agonists or antagonists of the polypeptide.

Invention II is distinct from and unrelated to Inventions IV-X, wherein the polypeptide of Invention II is neither made by nor used in the methods of Inventions IV-X, and wherein each does not require the other.

The polypeptide of Invention II is distinct from the agonist of invention XI, and the antagonist of invention XII because they are physically and/or functionally distinct chemical entities. Also, neither is required for the manufacture of the other.

Invention III is distinct from and unrelated to Inventions IV-VIII and X, wherein the antibody of Invention III is neither made by nor used in the methods of Inventions IV-VIII and X, and wherein each does not require the other.

Inventions III and IX can be related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the product as claimed may be used for processes other than the detection of the polypeptide, such as purification of the polypeptide of invention II.

Art Unit: 1646

The antibody of Invention III is distinct from the agonist of invention XI, and the antagonist of invention XII because they are physically and/or functionally distinct chemical entities. Also, neither is required for the manufacture of the other.

Inventions IV-X are drawn to independent methods, wherein each of the methods has different process steps, different active agents, different starting and ending points, and is for a different purpose, such that they require separate searches.

Inventions IV and XI are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the method of treatment using an agonist of the polypeptide can be practiced with the polypeptide itself.

Inventions IV, V and VII-X are distinct from and unrelated to Invention XII, wherein the antagonist of Invention XII is neither made by nor used in the method of Invention IV, V and VII-X and wherein each does not require the other.

Inventions V-X are distinct from and unrelated to Invention XI, wherein the agonist of Invention XI is neither made by nor used in the methods of Inventions V-X, and wherein each does not require the other.

Inventions VI and XII are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the method of treatment using an antagonist of the polypeptide can be practiced with an antibody having antagonizing activity to the polypeptide.

The agonist of Invention XI is distinct from and unrelated to the antagonist of Invention XII because they are physically and functionally distinct chemical entities which share neither structure nor function. Also, neither is required for the manufacture of the other.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and/or recognized divergent subject matters, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Art Unit: 1646

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143), and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and the product claims are subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder. All claims directed to a nonelected process invention must require all the limitations of an allowable product claim for that process invention to be rejoined.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103 and 112. Until all claims to the elected product are found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowable product claim will not be rejoined. See MPEP § 821.04(b). Additionally, in order to retain the right to

Art Unit: 1646

rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution to require the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.** Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

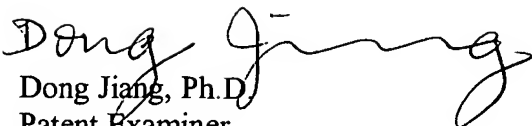
Art Unit: 1646

Advisory Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Dong Jiang whose telephone number is 571-272-0872. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Nickol, can be reached on 571-272-0835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Dong Jiang, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner

AU1646

8/18/06